(a) whether it is a fact that a number of State Governments have asked the World Bank for financial assistance for their nationalised bus transport systems during the last five years;

(b) if so, what are the names of the States which have sought such assistance;

(c) whether the World Bank has stipulated conditions for the grant of these loans; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) During the last five years, Government of India has obtained World Bank group assistance for only one transport system viz. the Calcutta Urban Transport Project. In addition to this, there is a transport Component in the Second Madras Urban Development Project also.

(c) and (d) Under the provisions of both these Agreements, the Government of West Bengal and the Government of Tamil Nadu are required to carry out or cause the implementing authorities to carry out the project with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with appropriate administrative, financial and engineering practices and are required to provide as needed the funds, facilities, services and other resources for the purpose.

Airport near Arakonam for Defence Services

1439. SHRI T. THANGABALU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any scheme under Government's consideration in 1977 to have a defence airport near Arakonam in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, what are the details of the expenditure incurred on this project so far; and

(c) the stage at which the project stands now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, an expenditure of Rs. 5.63 lakhs has been incurred for the preliminary works like soil investigations, survey of the area, temporary services/accommodation etc.

(c) The development plans of the Airport are being finalised.

HRA Allowance to Employees Posted at Mahe

1440. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Pondicherry has since issued the Dependency Certificate and sent it to the Central Government recommending grant of House Rent Allowance to Government employees working in Mahe (Pondicherry);

(b) if so, whether Government have issued any orders for grant of HRA to Government employees posted in Mahe; and

(c) if not, by when the said orders are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Eviction of Civilian Employees of Defence Department Danapur

1441. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from Bihar State Defence Employees Union, Danapur Cantonement regarding alleged threats of eviction of civilian employees of Defence Department from their houses; and

(b) whether Government are taking any steps to stay these evictions till alternative arrangements are made to allot residential accommodation to the affected employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allotment of Defence pool accommodation in Danapur was made in